

Message Text

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SUBJECT: NARCOTICS COUNTRY PAPER

1. REQUEST ANY REDRAFTING REQUIRED TO UPDATE PRESENT
NARCOTICS COUNTRY PAPER ON SPAIN. THIS PAPER APPEARS IN
UNCLASSIFIED BRIEFING BOOK FOR AGENCY USE IN RESPONSE TO
PUBLIC AND CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRIES. WOULD APPRECIATE
HAVING MISSION COMMENTS IF POSSIBLE BY THE END OF THE WEEK.

2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PRESENT PAPER ON SPAIN.

BEGIN TEXT.

1. ILLICIT DRUG PROBLEM.

- DRUG USE HAS BEEN INCREASING GRADUALLY IN SPAIN, BUT
IT HAS NOT YET REACHED ALARMING PROPORTIONS. IF THE
PRESENT TREND CONTINUES, SPAIN COULD HAVE A SIGNIFICANT
PROBLEM IN THREE OR FOUR YEARS.

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- THE MOST COMMONLY ABUSED DRUGS ARE CANNABIS, LSD, AND
AMPHETAMINES. THERE IS SOME COCAINE USAGE AND, AT A LOWER
BUT GROWING RATE, HEROIN ABUSE. SPAIN PRODUCES NO OPIUM OR
HEROIN, BUT AMPHETAMINES ARE MADE THERE, SOME OF WHICH FIND

THEIR WAY INTO THE ILLICIT MARKETS OF OTHER EUROPEAN

NATIONS. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT SPANISH AMPHETAMINES ARE REACHING THE ILLICIT US MARKET.

- SPAIN HAS BEEN AND CONTINUES TO BE A TRANSIT COUNTRY. MORE THAN 90 PER CENT OF THE DRUGS WHICH ENTER SPAIN ARE IN TRANSIT STATUS. SPAIN'S PROXIMITY TO MOROCCO HAS MADE IT AN IDEAL TRANSIT POINT FOR HASHISH, BY FAR THE MOST COMMON ILLICIT DRUG IN SPAIN.

2. DRUG CONTROL EFFORTS.

- SPANISH AWARENESS OF THE INTERNAL DRUG PROBLEM AND THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS TRAFFIC HAS DEVELOPED GRADUALLY. THE TWO MAJOR POLICE AGENCIES, THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SECURITY (DGS) AND THE CIVIL GUARD, BOTH HAVE NARCOTICS BRIGADES. THE FIRST HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIAL INTEREST IN NARCOTICS AFFAIRS OCCURRED IN 1974 WHEN THE GOVERNMENT FORMED AN INTERMINISTERIAL COMMISSION TO STUDY ALCOHOLISM AND THE DRUG PROBLEM. THE COMMISSION PRESENTED ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT IN EARLY 1975, PROPOSING A PLAN TO CENTRALLY COORDINATE COORDINATE SPANISH DRUG ENFORCEMENT BETWEEN THE DGS AND THE CIVIL GUARD.

- DRUG MATTERS DO NOT RECEIVE PRIORITY ATTENTION FROM THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT BECAUSE OTHER SECURITY INTERESTS SUCH
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AS TERRORISM ARE PRESENTLY CONSIDERED MORE IMPORTANT. AS SPAIN'S DRUG PROBLEM MAY BECOME MORE SERIOUS, HOWEVER, THE GOVERNMENT HAS GRADUALLY MADE A STRONGER EFFORT TO CONTROL DRUG TRAFFICKING. SPANISH DRUG ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES ARE CURRENTLY HANDICAPPED, HOWEVER, BY INSUFFICIENT EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL. BOTH AGENCIES COOPERATE CLOSELY WITH THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION (DEA) REPRESENTATIVES IN MADRID.

- DRUG LAWS ARE RELATIVELY STRICT IN SPAIN, AND PUBLIC OPINION SEEMS TO SUPPORT SEVERITY IN THE PROSECUTION AND APPLICATION OF PENALTIES FOR INVOLVEMENT IN THE ILLICIT DRUG TRADE. LOCAL ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES REGULARLY PUBLICIZE THE ARREST OF DEALERS OR THE BREAKING UP OF GROUPS ENGAGED IN THE USE OF DRUGS. SEVERAL OF THE MAJOR NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS HAVE CARRIED EXTENSIVE BACKGROUND REPORTS ON THE DANGERS OF THE USE OF DRUGS AND THE RELATIVE LEVEL OF DRUG USE IN SPAIN AND OTHER COUNTRIES.

- SPAIN IS A PARTY TO THE SINGLE CONVENTION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS, THE AMENDING PROTOCOL, AND THE PSYCHOTROPIC CONVEN-

TION. THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT HAS MADE TWO DOLS 10,000 CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UN FUND FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL.

3. US PROGRAM.

- THE GOALS OF THE EMBASSY IN MADRID WITH REGARD TO NARCOTICS ARE: 1) TO INTERDICT THE FLOW OF ILLICIT DRUGS MOVING THROUGH SPAIN, ESPECIALLY TO THE US; 2) TO PREVENT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING NETWORKS IN SPAIN; 3) TO ASSIST THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT IN ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DRUG ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM; 4) TO ASSIST THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT IN PREVENTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SERIOUS DRUG PROBLEM IN SPAIN; 5) TO PROMOTE SPANISH COOPERATION IN INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO COMBAT
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ILLICIT TRAFFICKING; AND 6) TO DECREASE THE INVOLVEMENT OF AMERICANS IN NARCOTICS USE AND TRAFFIC IN SPAIN.

- WORKING TOWARD THESE GOALS, THE EMBASSY HAS MADE APPROACHES TO TOP GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELICITING HIGH-LEVEL COOPERATION IN A BILATERAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM AND IN INTERNATIONAL ENFORCEMENT COLLABORATION. A NARCOTICS COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH SPAIN IS CURRENTLY BEING NEGOTIATED. THE EMBASSY HAS ALSO SOUGHT, WITH SOME SUCCESS, THE ARREST AND EXTRADITION OF KEY INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKERS.

- SPANISH ENFORCEMENT CAPABILITY HAS BEEN ENHANCED BY

THE PRESENCE OF DEA OFFICERS WORKING UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE AMBASSADOR IN MADRID. BY THE END OF 1976, 165 CIVIL GUARD OFFICERS AND 87 DGS OFFICERS HAD RECEIVED TRAINING AT THE DEA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL IN WASHINGTON. CIVIL GUARD MEN HAVE ALSO BEEN TRAINED BY DEA IN SPAIN. THE US CUSTOMS SERVICE HAS TRAINED CIVIL GUARD OFFICERS ENGAGED IN BORDER INTERDICTION. FIVE CIVIL GUARD OFFICERS HAVE RECEIVED TRAINING IN THE USE OF DRUG DETECTOR DOGS, AND THE CIVIL GUARD HAS INITIATED ITS OWN DRUG DETECTOR DOG TRAINING SCHOOL. THESE TRAINING PROGRAMS HAVE RESULTED IN A RAPID INCREASE IN THE VOLUME OF HASHISH SEIZURES BY THE CIVIL GUARD.

- THE EMBASSY HAS MAINTAINED CLOSE LIAISON WITH THE INTER-MINISTERIAL COMMISSION TO STUDY ALCOHOLISM AND THE DRUG PROBLEM, AND INVITATIONS HAVE BEEN EXTENDED TO HIGH-LEVEL DRUG ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS TO VISIT THE US.
END TEXT. CHRISTOPHER

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